

## TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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May 22, 2013

Town Meeting Members Town of Brookline, MA

Dear Town Meeting Members,

The Coolidge Corner Theatre is New England's most successful independent not-for-profit cinema. Opening in 1933 it is the community's first movie theater and now it celebrates the experience of cinema by presenting the finest international, documentary, animated, and independent film selections and series. Warrant Articles 19 through 21have been submitted by the Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation Board of Trustees to facilitate the necessary expansion of their historic facilities located at 290 Harvard Street.

This planned expansion includes additional lobby space, concessions, bathrooms, and a third full size screening auditorium. It is expected that these changes will require a new easement agreement with the Town of Brookline and a redesign of the portion of the Centre Street East parking lot directly behind the theatre. Town staff from the Planning and Public Works Departments worked with the Theatre's professional consultants to redesign the parking lot to meet the needs of the Theatre as well as the needs of the Town. This concept design was presented to the Board at our April 2013 meeting and includes continued pedestrian and vehicular access from Harvard Street, 2 new handicap parking spaces, 9 metered parking spaces, new landscaping, a new commercial loading zone large enough to accommodate box trucks, and a continuous separated pedestrian walkway from Harvard Street to Centre Street.

After 80 years the Coolidge Corner Theatre remains a vital part of the fabric that makes Brookline one of the most desirable communities to reside in within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Transportation Board, by a unanimous vote, supports the passage of Warrant Articles 19 through 21 to continue and grow this tradition for future generations.

Warmest Regards,

Joshua Safer, Chairman Brookline Transportation Board Department of Public Works

**Engineering & Transportation Division** 

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